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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 215851

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ikemoto et al.

Application No. 10/086,076

Art Unit: 1621

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: February 28, 2002

Examiner: M. L. Shippen

For: PRODUCTION METHOD OF CITALOPRAM,
INTERMEDIATE THEREFOR AND PRODUCTION
METHOD OF THE INTERMEDIATE

RECEIVED

SEP 12 2002

**AMENDMENTS TO ABSTRACT AND CLAIMS MADE IN
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 8, 2002**

*(Deletions are indicated by cross-out text,
while additions are indicated by underlined text)*

IN THE ABSTRACT:

ABSTRACT

A compound of formula [V] is prepared by oxidizing a compound of formula [III].

Citalopram can be industrially and economically produced and at a high yield by reacting converting a compound of the following formula [V], which is prepared from a compound of formula [III], to a compound of formula [VI], and then alkylating the compound of formula [VI] to form citalopram with 3-(dimethylamino)propyl chloride in the presence of at least one of N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine and 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone and a condensing agent. The compound of the following formula [III], which is a key compound for the production of citalopram, can be easily produced by subjecting the compound of the following formula [II] to reduction and cyclization.